

be adopted for *A. procumbens*; *Azalea* Linnaeus thus becomes a synonym of *Loiseleuria*.

According to the Philadelphia Code *Azalea* Linnaeus must be considered the valid name for the genus now generally called *Loiseleuria* and the name *Azalea* in the conception of Britton and Small must be replaced by *Tsutsusi* Adanson.

The subgeneric or sectional name *Azalea* of Planchon under the genus *Rhododendron* is based on species of *Azalea* L. sensu Desvaux, which I do not consider a valid name in this conception, and it is, moreover, antedated by G. Don's and Endlicher's sectional and subgeneric names *Pentanthera* and *Anthodendron*; therefore *Azalea* should not be used as a sectional or subgeneric name under *Rhododendron*.

THE "INDIAN AZALEAS" AT MAGNOLIA GARDENS

E. H. WILSON

THE Magnolia Gardens near Charleston, South Carolina, are among the remarkable gardens of the South and are specially famous for their Azaleas. On April 16th my colleague, Alfred Rehder, visited these gardens and made herbarium specimens of all the varieties then in flower. The collection is of great interest as it represents very completely the "Indian Azaleas" known to the gardens of the 40's and 50's of last century. From most modern gardens these varieties have been lost though nearly all are represented in that at Holm Lea, Brookline, Mass. Miss Marie C. Hastie, granddaughter of the founder of Magnolia Gardens, obligingly informs us that the first planting of Azaleas was made by her grandfather about 1850. The importation came by way of Philadelphia and included plants of *Azalea indica* sent for the special purpose of trying them in South Carolina. Later, plants were secured from the Bercksmanns' Nursery, Augusta, Georgia. Many of the original plants are still growing in Magnolia Gardens, and by successful layering quantities have been obtained and the collection largely increased. The older plants are now much crowded and the largest measure from 16 to 18 feet in height and from 14 to 16 feet through. The largest plants are *R. phoeniceum* G. Don and its forms which are richly represented. Apart from the typical species there is the form *semiduplex* Wils. with double flowers; also one with white flowers which I have not seen before. Other forms are f. *splendens* Wils. (*R. phoeniceum* var. *splendens* D. Don), f. *Smithii* Wils. (*R. pulchrum* Sweet), which were raised in England and introduced into America in 1835 and 1836 and var. *calycinum* Wils. (*A. indica calycina* Lindl.) with very large, rich magenta-colored flowers which was introduced from China into England by R. Fortune about 1850. Of the true *R. indicum* Sweet (*Azalea indica* L.) several color forms are growing at Magnolia including the famous f. *variegatum* DC. which was introduced into England from China in 1833 to Knight's Nursery and into Boston,

Mass., in 1838. For many years this was not only a favorite exhibition plant but was also the parent of many "Indian Azaleas" like "Iveryana" and "Gledstanesii." Van Houtte's *Azalea indica punctulata* and *A. indica punctulata variegata*, which are figured in *Flore des Serres* xvi. tt. 1618-1621 (1865) and are possible hybrids between *R. indicum* Sweet and *R. Simsii* Planchon, are still in the Magnolia Gardens. So, too, is "Azalea Decora" which is probably of the same parentage and has rich red-colored flowers. This Azalea was introduced into Boston, Mass., by Marshall P. Wilder in 1848, and its descendants are still in the Holm Lea collection. The well-known *Azalea indica alba* or *A. ledifolia* (*R. mucronatum* G. Don) and its colored form (var. *ripense* Wils.) are of course represented at Magnolia by many fine bushes. This Azalea was introduced into Boston some time before 1838 and is quite hardy in gardens along the Hudson River, New York, and on Long Island where some very fine specimens are known. The largest and oldest specimen I know of, however, is in the garden of Mr. Henry F. Dupont, Winterthur, Delaware; this is 6 ft. 9 inches tall and 12 ft. 2 inches through the crown and has been in possession of the Dupont family since between 1835 and 1840.

NOTES FROM AUSTRALASIA. No. I

E. H. WILSON

AUSTRALIA is a new world to one familiar only with the flora of the northern Hemisphere. Everything is different, all the species, excepting certain aliens and naturalized weeds, most of the genera and many of the families. The remarkable Grass-tree (*Kingia*) and the Blackboy (*Xanthorrhoea*) of western Australia, probably of an earlier flora than any other living trees, seem out of place in the absence of pachydermatous animals, and wandering among them one half expects to meet an elephant, hippopotamus or rhinoceros whilst the presence of the extinct gigantic Saurians of the Jurassic Age would be in full keeping with these strange and ancient types of vegetation. Thanks to facilities freely placed at the disposal of the Arnold Arboretum's Expedition by the Government of Western Australia and to the admirable arrangements made by the Conservator of Forests, Mr. C. E. Lane-Poole, I traversed some 2000 miles in the southern part of Western Australia. Alone I should have been completely lost among the extraordinarily varied and anomalous vegetation but the Conservator himself was my guide through all the important forest areas and through the sand plains and savannah regions I had the companionship of the Government Botanist, Mr. D. A. Herbert. Thanks to the invaluable aid of these two men I was able to familiarize myself with all the more important trees and many of the larger shrubs of the regions traversed, and to appreciate in a small degree the enormous wealth of species. Truly the southern part of the vast country designated Western Australia is a veritable botanical garden